

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 /046 R

DRAFTED BY EA/ANP:JPCONDON:RLW
APPROVED BY EA/ANP:EHURWIT
-----096138 141137Z /17

R 132123Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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PASS TO GERRY HOLMES OF DEPT. OF LABOR FROM AMB. CONDON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: E/LAB

SUBJECT: LABOR ATTACHE CONFERENCE

1. YOUR THOUGHTFULNESS DID IT AGAIN. MANY THANKS FOR YOUR TELEGRAM. "HISTORIC OCCASION" MISSED SOME OF ITS POIGNANCY BECAUSE OF YOUR ABSENCE.

2. OUR COLLEAGUES IN THE LABOR ATTACHE CONFERENCE MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN FOLLOWING TRANSCRIBED EXCERPT FROM MY SPEECH DURING SWEARING-IN CEREMONY ATTENDED BY OVER 300 GUESTS INCLUDING SECRETARY HOWARD SAMUEL.

3. QUOTE: THERE IS STILL ANOTHER SYMBOLIC SIGNIFICANCE IN TODAY'S PROCEEDINGS IN THAT IT GIVES CAUSE FOR THOUGHT AS TO WHETHER THE LABOR ATTACHE FUNCTION IS A DEAD-END CONE, SOMETHING THAT IN THE LAST FEW YEARS AN INCREASING NUMBER OF LABOR ATTACHES HAVE COME TO VIEW AS EVIDENT. IT IS NOT A HEALTHY SIGN WHEN A VITAL DIPLOMATIC SPECIALITY
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HAS COME TO BE VIEWED IN THIS LIGHT. I HAVE SPENT MOST OF MY PROFESSIONAL LIFE DEDICATED TO THE PROPOSITION THAT THERE IS NO EXAMPLE IN HISTORY WHERE DEMOCRACY SURVIVED AFTER THE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT HAS BEEN STEPPED UPON AND BROUGHT UNDER POLITICAL CONTROL. THERE IS NOTHING TO SUGGEST THAT THIS HISTORICAL TRUTH IS LIKELY TO CHANGE IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

A FOREIGN SERVICE FUNCTION THAT IS BASED ON THIS HISTORICAL
TRUTH SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO EXIST AS A DEAD-END CONE.
IS MY APPOINTMENT THE EXCEPTION THAT CONFIRMS THE RULE OR
IS IT A SIGNAL OF THE BEGINNING OF A NEW TREND? THAT IS
THE QUESTION. END QUOTE.
VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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